



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/753,339	12/29/2000	Lyndon Y. Ong	61473/0269205	8404
27498	7590	06/10/2004	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP 2475 HANOVER STREET PALO ALTO, CA 94304-1114			ELALLAM, AHMED	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2662	

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/753,339	ONG, LYNDON Y.
	Examiner AHMED ELALLAM	Art Unit 2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2000.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2000 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The figures 1A and 1B are objected to for the following informalities:

Figures 1A and 1B should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 7, line 1, the term "an" should be --a--.

On page 8, line 8, the term "FIG. 1" need correction since there is no such figure

1. It should be probably "Figures 1A-1B".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-5 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 1, 2, and 4, the phrase "the connection" lacks antecedent basis.

Claims 3 and 5 depends from respective base claims 1 and 4, thus they are subject to the same objection.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Borella et al, US (6,643,259).

Regarding claim 1, Borella discloses a method of controlling congestion in a communication network (see figure 1) comprising:

Entering a congestion avoidance state when some form of congestion has been detected. (Claimed detecting a potential network congestion condition);

Wherein during the congestion avoidance state, a congestion window (cwnd) is increased so that the first device 14 transmits traffic in accordance with the available bandwidth in the network, see column 9, lines 64-67 and column 10, lines 1-13. (Claimed upon detection of a potential network congestion condition, controlling new traffic emitted into the network to not exceed a fixed bandwidth estimated for the connection).

Regarding claim 2, Borella discloses that the congestion avoidance phase is entered when the congestion window crosses the slow start threshold, wherein the first device 14 transmits traffic not exceeding the available bandwidth. See column 9, lines 64-67 and column 10, lines 1-13.

Regarding claims 3 and 5, Borella discloses that the data network can be a campus network or a private network. See column 3, lines 1-5, and 17-20.

Regarding claim 4, Borella discloses a method of controlling congestion in a communication network (see figure 1) comprising:

Entering a congestion avoidance state when some form of congestion has been detected. (Claimed detecting a potential network congestion condition);

Wherein during the congestion avoidance state, a congestion window (cwnd) is increased so that the first device 14 transmits traffic in accordance with the available bandwidth in the network, see column 9, lines 64-67 and column 10, lines 1-13. (Claimed upon detection of the potential congestion, controlling new traffic emitted into the network to be no more than the current traffic load of the network at the time of detection).

Regarding claim 6, Borella discloses a method of controlling congestion in a communication network (see figure 1) comprising:

Entering a congestion avoidance state when some form of congestion has been detected. (Claimed detecting a potential network congestion condition);

Borella also discloses setting the congestion window to a value threshold cwnd*. See column 13, lines 65-67, and column 14, lines 1-13. (Claimed setting a congestion window size to a prescribed value so that the amount of unacknowledged traffic from the sender on the network does not exceed the window size).

Examiner has interpreted the cwnd* as being the amount of unacknowledged traffic from the sender 14 on the network before receiving acknowledgments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borella in view of Ohyama et al, US (6,278,691).

Regarding claim 7, in addition to the limitations discloses by Borella above with reference to claim 6, Borella also discloses a second network device (figure 1, unit 16) that advertise to the first network device an offered window (awnd) representing data that the second device can currently receive without overflowing its buffer. See column 8, lines 3-15.

Borella does not disclose a window size that is lesser of a current amount of unacknowledged traffic from the sender on the network and a current receiver buffer size.

However, Ohyama discloses providing a congestion window for controlling congestion, and the receiver buffer size is compared with the congestion window size and uses the smaller window in transition. (Claimed a window size that is lesser of a current amount of unacknowledged traffic from the sender on the network and a current receiver buffer size). See column 5, lines 66-67 and column 6, lines 1-11.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an ordinary person of skill in the art at the time the invention was made to prevent the overflowing of Borella's receiver buffer using the congestion window method taught by Ohyama so that in addition to receiving new traffic at a congested phase of Borella, measures would be taken to implement bandwidth optimization. The benefit would be less congestion due to the receiver buffer congestion eliminations.

Regarding claim 8, Borella discloses a method of controlling congestion in a communication network (see figure 1) comprising:

Entering a congestion avoidance state when some form of congestion has been detected. (Claimed detecting a potential network congestion condition);

Wherein during the congestion avoidance state, a congestion window (cwnd) is increased so that the first device 14 transmits traffic in accordance with the available bandwidth in the network, see column 9, lines 64-67 and column 10, lines 1-13. Borella also discloses a second network device (figure 1, unit 16) that advertise to the first network device an offered window (awnd) representing data that the second device can currently receive without overflowing its buffer. See column 8, lines 3-15.

Borella does not disclose a controlling bandwidth of the connection to be no more than the lesser of unacknowledged traffic level at the time of the detection and a receiver buffer size.

However, Ohyama discloses providing a congestion window (Examiner interpreted the congestion window as the bandwidth of the connection) for controlling congestion, and the receiver buffer size is compared with the congestion window size

and uses the smaller window in transition. (Claimed a window size that is lesser of a current amount of unacknowledged traffic from the sender on the network and a current receiver buffer size). See column 5, lines 66-67 and column 6, lines 1-11.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an ordinary person of skill in the art at the time the invention was made to prevent the overflowing of Borella's receiver buffer using the congestion window method taught by Ohyama so that in addition to receiving new traffic at a congested phase of Borella, measures would be taken to implement bandwidth optimization. The benefit would be less congestion due to the receiver's buffer congestion eliminations.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Wilson, US 2001/0032269; Galand et al, US (6,424,624); and Hadi Salim et al, US (6,625,118); Mogule, US (6,560,243).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AHMED ELALLAM whose telephone number is (703) 308-6069. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kizou Hassan can be reached on (703) 305-4744. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AHMED ELALLAM
Examiner
Art Unit 2662
June 2, 2004



JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER